

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A power tool for imparting a rotational impact force to an end tool, comprising:

a housing;

a powered drive source;

a speed reduction mechanism portion comprising which includes a fixed gear that is arranged relative to the housing and transmitting transmits a rotational power of said powered drive source;

a striking mechanism portion for converting the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism portion into a striking force;

~~an end tool for outputting the striking force through said striking mechanism portion;~~  
and

an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact on said speed reduction mechanism portion in a direction of rotation of said ~~fixed gear portion~~, wherein the gear is arranged relative to the housing such that the gear is only slightly rotatable relative to the housing.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises:

a projection, formed on said ~~fixed~~ gear of said speed reduction mechanism portion;  
and

an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises:

a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said projection on said ~~fixed~~ gear is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said ~~fixed~~ gear.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member is between said ~~fixed~~ gear and said fixed gear support jig, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said ~~fixed~~ gear and said fixed gear support jig is formed on an outer surface of said ~~fixed~~ gear or said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member is between said ~~fixed~~ gear and said fixed gear support jig, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 1, wherein the drive

source comprises a motor.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said fixed gear support jig; is formed on a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 2, wherein said impact damping member is between said fixed gear support jig and said housing, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said projection on said ~~fixed~~ gear and said projection on said fixed gear support jig are formed on a side surface of said ~~fixed~~ gear and said fixed gear support jig, respectively.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) A power tool according to claim 3, wherein said impact damping member is between said fixed gear support jig and said housing, and is provided between a bearing of said striking mechanism portion or a bearing of said speed reduction mechanism portion and said housing.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A tool for imparting a rotational impact force to an end tool, comprising:

a housing;

a drive source;

a speed reduction mechanism comprising which includes a fixed gear that is arranged relative to the housing and transmitting transmits a power of said drive source;

a striking mechanism for converting the power of said transmitting mechanism into a striking force; and

an impact damping mechanism for damping an impact of said speed reduction mechanism in a direction of rotation of said fixed gear, wherein the gear is arranged relative to the housing such that the gear is only slightly rotatable relative to the housing.

Claim 14. (Canceled).

Claim 15. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 13, wherein said striking mechanism converts the rotational power of said speed reduction mechanism into said striking force.

Claim 16. (Canceled).

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The tool of claim 13, further comprising:

an end tool for outputting the striking force and a rotation force of said speed reduction mechanism through said striking mechanism.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 13, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises:

a projection formed on said ~~fixed~~ gear of said speed reduction mechanism; and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear  
support jig.

Claim 19. (Currently amended) The tool of claim 13, wherein said impact damping  
mechanism comprises:

a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig of said speed reduction mechanism,  
and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a housing of said  
tool.

Claim 20. (Currently amended) An ~~apparatus, comprising:~~

~~an~~ impact tool, powered by a driving force, for imparting a rotational impact force to  
an end tool, said impact tool comprising:

a housing; and

a speed reduction mechanism comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ gear that is arranged to the housing; and

an impact damping mechanism for damping said rotational impact force on a  
speed reduction mechanism in a direction of rotation of said ~~fixed~~ gear,

wherein the gear is arranged relative to the housing such that the gear is only slightly  
rotatable relative to the housing.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said impact tool

further comprises a striking mechanism for converting the power of said speed reduction mechanism into said rotational impact ~~a striking~~ force.

Claim 22. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises:

a projection, formed on said ~~fixed~~ gear of said speed reduction mechanism, and  
an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and a fixed gear support jig mounted in a housing of said impact tool.

Claim 23. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection, formed on a fixed gear support jig, and an impact damping member provided adjacent to said projection and said a housing.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The power tool of claim 1, wherein said speed reduction mechanism comprises a fixed gear support jig, and said impact damping mechanism comprises an impact damping member formed in a hole in said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The power tool of claim 24, wherein said hole comprises a pair of holes which are oppositely disposed on said fixed gear support jig.

Claim 26. (Previously presented) The power tool of claim 25, wherein said impact damping member comprises a plurality of impact damping members such that a pair of said

plurality of impact damping members are formed in each of said pair of holes.

Claim 27. (Currently amended) The power tool of claim 26, wherein said impact damping member further comprises a pair of projections formed on said ~~a fixed~~ gear of said speed reduction mechanism, each of said projections being disposed between a pair of said impact damping members.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) A tool for imparting a rotational impact force to an end tool, comprising:

a drive source;

a housing;

a speed reducer that comprises:

a fixed gear support jig that is fixedly supported by said ~~a~~ housing of said tool;

and

a gear that is arranged relative to said housing by said fixed gear support jig

~~speed reduction device supported by said support jig~~ and that transmits a rotational

movement from said drive source;

a striking mechanism that converts said rotational movement into a striking force; and

an impact damping mechanism that dampens a rotational impact between said gear  
~~speed reduction device~~ and said housing, wherein the gear is arranged relative to the housing  
such that the gear is only slightly rotatable relative to the housing.

Claim 29. (Currently amended) A power tool for imparting a rotational impact force to

an end tool, comprising:

a main body portion comprising having:

a housing;

a motor serving as a drive source,

a speed reduction mechanism portion for transmitting a rotational power of said motor, and

a mechanical portion for transmitting the rotational power of the speed reduction mechanism portion to ~~an~~ the end tool; and

a handle portion connected to the main body portion,

wherein said speed reduction mechanism portion comprises includes:

a ~~fixed~~ gear that is arranged relative to the housing and comprising having a

another gear in an inner periphery of the ~~fixed~~ gear, and

a fixed gear support member that holds the ~~fixed~~ gear,

wherein a projection extends toward the motor from a side of the ~~fixed~~ gear, and

wherein a hole portion that engages the projection is defined in the support member,

wherein the gear is arranged relative to the housing such that the gear is only slightly rotatable relative to the housing.

Claim 30. (Currently amended) The power tool of claim 29, wherein the ~~fixed~~ gear is held, so as to rotate only very slightly, by the fixed gear support member.

Claim 31. (Currently amended) The power tool of claim 29, further comprising:  
an impact damping mechanism disposed in the hole portion of the support member in



a rotating direction of the ~~fixed~~ gear.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) The power tool of claim 29, wherein an outer periphery of the support member is in contact with an inner peripheral surface of a housing of the main body portion, and wherein a rotation stoppage projection extends from a side of the housing toward the motor.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) The power tool of claim 29, wherein an impact damping member is disposed on each side of the projection.

Claim 34. (New) The tool of claim 28, wherein said impact damping mechanism comprises a projection on said fixed support jig.

Claim 35. (New) The tool of claim 34, wherein said projection is on one of a side surface or an outer surface of said fixed support jig.

Claim 36. (New) The tool of claim 34, wherein said impact damping mechanism further comprises an impact damping member adjacent to said projection.

Claim 37. (New) The tool of claim 34, wherein said impact damping mechanism further comprises an impact damping member adjacent to said fixed support jig.